

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-31 and add new claims 32-46 as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 32 (New). A clock generating device which changes a clock frequency during a predetermined time, comprising:

AI a reference clock generating section which generates a reference clock having a fixed reference frequency;

5 a delay chain section which produces a plurality of delay clocks having different delayed phases respectively with the fixed reference frequency from the reference clock;

a switching control section which outputs a selection signal to indicate which clock is to be selected so as to change a clock frequency during a predetermined time; and
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a selecting combining section to select and combine plural delay clocks so as to output composite pulses having a frequency different from the fixed reference frequency during the predetermined time in accordance with the selection signal.

A/ Claim 33 (New). The clock generating device according to claim 32, wherein the switching control section produces the selection signal based on predetermined output clock information.

Claim 34 (New). The clock generating device according to claim 33, further comprising:

a memory section which stores the output clock information.

Claim 35 (New). The clock generating device according to claim 33, further comprising:

a calculating section which calculates the output clock information.

Claim 36 (New). The clock generating device according to claim 32, wherein the clock generating device is structured by an integral circuit.

Claim 37 (New). The clock generating device according to claim 32, wherein the clock generating device comprises a digital circuit.

Claim 38 (New). The clock generating device according to claim 32, further comprising:

a control section which controls the clock generating device.

A/ Claim 39 (New). The clock generating device according to claim 32, further comprising:

a control counter section which produces region information to indicate a region to be switched, wherein

5 the clock frequency is based on region data received by the control section, and

the switching control section produces the selection signal based on the region information.

Claim 40 (New). The clock generating device according to claim 32, further comprising:

a synchronous signal detecting section which detects the number of stages of a delay clock synchronizing with the

5 reference clock among the plural delay clocks.

Claim 41 (New). The clock generating device according to claim 32, wherein the switching control section selects plural delay clocks so as to disperse time intervals between clocks.

Claim 42 (New). The clock generating device according to claim 32, wherein the switching control section selects plural delay clocks so as to add an optional time.

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Claim 43 (New). The clock generating device according to claim 32, wherein the switching control section selects plural delay clocks so as to subtract an optional time.

Claim 44 (New). The clock generating device according to claim 32, wherein the switching control section conducts a first selection to select plural delay clocks so as to add an optional time and a second selection to select plural delay clocks so as to alternately subtract an optional time.

Claim 45 (New). An image forming apparatus, comprising:
the clock generating device of claim 32; and
a writing device to write an image based on the clock output from the selecting combining section;

5 wherein the writing device writes an image to be located outside of a predetermined region based on the reference clock and an image to be located in the predetermined region based on the clock having a frequency different from the reference clock.

Claim 46 (New). The image forming apparatus of claim 45,
further comprising:

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a control counter section to produce region information to
indicate a region to be switched, wherein

5 the clock frequency is based on region data, and

the switching control section produces the selection signal
based on the region information.
